



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 1107

LCO No. 3286

03286_____GAE

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC FILING OF CAMPAIGN REPORTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-675 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2010*):

3 (a) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall (1) create a
4 [software] web-based program or programs for the preparation of
5 financial disclosure statements required by section 9-608, and (2)
6 prescribe the standard reporting format and specifications for other
7 [software] web-based programs created by vendors for such purpose.
8 No [software] web-based program created by a vendor may be used
9 for the electronic submission of such financial disclosure statements,
10 until the commission determines that the program provides for the
11 standard reporting format, and complies with the specifications, which
12 are prescribed under subdivision (2) of this subsection for vendor
13 software programs. The commission shall provide training in the use
14 of the [software] web-based program [or programs] created by the
15 commission.

16 (b) [The] On and after April 1, 2010, the campaign treasurer of (1)
 17 the candidate committee or an exploratory committee for each
 18 candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor,
 19 Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State
 20 Treasurer, [or] Secretary of the State, state senator or state
 21 representative who is or will be participating in the Citizens' Election
 22 Program; (2) the candidate committee or an exploratory committee for
 23 each candidate for nomination or election to the Office of Governor,
 24 Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State
 25 Treasurer, Secretary of the State, state senator or state representative or
 26 judge of probate who raises or spends [two hundred fifty] five
 27 thousand dollars or more during [an] a primary or an election
 28 campaign; (3) the treasurer of any state central committee, legislative
 29 caucus committee or legislative leadership committee; (4) any other
 30 town committee or a political committee registered with the
 31 commission that (i) has a balance on hand of five thousand dollars or
 32 more as of the April 10, 2010, filing under section 9-608 or the April
 33 tenth report of any even year thereafter, or (ii) raised or spent five
 34 thousand dollars or more in the preceding even year; and (5) any
 35 individual or committee that makes or obligates to make an
 36 independent expenditure or expenditures and that is required to file a
 37 report of such independent expenditure or expenditures in accordance
 38 with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 9-612
 39 shall file in electronic form all financial disclosure statements required
 40 by section 9-608 by [either transmitting disks, tapes or other electronic
 41 storage media containing the contents of such statements to the State
 42 Elections Enforcement Commission or] transmitting the statements on-
 43 line to [said] the commission. Each such campaign treasurer or
 44 individual shall use either (1) [a software] the web-based program
 45 created by the commission under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of
 46 this section, for all such statements, or (2) another [software] web-
 47 based program which provides for the standard reporting format, and
 48 complies with the specifications, which are prescribed by the
 49 commission under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, for

50 all such statements. The commission shall accept any statement that
 51 uses such web-based program or any such [software] web-based
 52 program. [Once any such candidate committee has raised or spent two
 53 hundred fifty thousand dollars or more during an election campaign,
 54 all previously filed statements required by said section 9-608, which
 55 were not filed in electronic form shall be refiled in such form, using
 56 such a software program, not later than the date on which the
 57 campaign treasurer of the committee is required to file the next regular
 58 statement under said section 9-608.]

59 (c) (1) The campaign treasurer of the candidate committee for any
 60 other candidate, as defined in section 9-601, who is required to file the
 61 financial disclosure statements required by section 9-608 with the
 62 commission but who has not reached the five-thousand-dollar
 63 threshold of contributions or expenditures set forth in subdivision (4)
 64 of subsection (b) of this section, and (2) the campaign treasurer of any
 65 political committee or party committee that does not have a balance on
 66 hand of five thousand dollars or more at any time after December 31,
 67 2009, may file in electronic form any financial disclosure statements
 68 required by said section 9-608. [Such filings may be made by either
 69 transmitting disks, tapes or other electronic storage media containing
 70 the contents of such statements to the proper authority under section
 71 9-603 or transmitting the statements on-line to such proper authority.
 72 Each such] The campaign treasurer shall use either (A) [a software] the
 73 web-based program created by the commission under subdivision (1)
 74 of subsection (a) of this section, for all such statements filed in
 75 electronic form with the commission, or (B) [another] a [software] web-
 76 based program which provides for the standard reporting format, and
 77 complies with the specifications, which are prescribed by the
 78 commission under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, for
 79 all such statements filed in electronic form [. The proper authority
 80 under section 9-603 shall accept any statement that uses any such
 81 software program] with the commission.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
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| Section 1 | <i>January 1, 2010</i> | 9-675 |
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Statement of Purpose:

To lower the threshold for electronic filings to the State Elections Enforcement Commission and to remove references to certain software programs and replace them with references to the web-based program.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]